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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/608,112	06/30/2003	Shinichiroh Wada	239623US2	1039

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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
1940 DUKE STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

LETT, THOMAS J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/22/2007

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com  
oblonpat@oblon.com  
jgardner@oblon.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/608,112	<b>Applicant(s)</b> WADA, SHINICHIROH	
	<b>Examiner</b> Thomas J. Lett	<b>Art Unit</b> 2625	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. Said figure can also be seen in the cited prior art of Sato (JP 2002055786 A). See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Sato (JP 2002-055786).

Regarding claim 1, Sato discloses an image forming apparatus (picture formation system of Fig. 1), comprising:

a digital printing device (printer 20, para. 0005) that prints an image according to image signals (from the scanned manuscript, para. 0005) input thereto, the digital printing device including a first nonvolatile memory (NVRAM 25) for storing first parameters that optimize performance thereof; and

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a digital scanning device (scanner 10, para. 0005), connectable (see fig. 1) to the digital printing device, that scans an image and converts the image into electric signals, the digital scanning device including a second nonvolatile memory (NVRAM2, see fig. 1, and para. 0005) for storing second parameters that optimize performance thereof, wherein the digital printing device includes control means (main control section 22 that has a rewriting function 5 to rewrite the characteristics) for modifying the second parameters when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device.

Regarding claim 2, Sato discloses the image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means comprise:

reading means (main control section 22) for reading the second parameters stored in the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device;

modification means (rewriting function 5) for modifying the second parameters read by the reading means; and

writing means (main control section 22) for writing the modified second parameters to the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device.

Regarding claim 3, Sato discloses the image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means comprise:

reading means (main control section 22) for reading the second parameters stored in the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device;

modification means (rewriting function 5) for modifying the second parameters read by the reading means; and

writing means (main control section 22) for writing the modified second parameters to the first nonvolatile memory of the digital printing device and the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device.

Regarding claim 4, Sato discloses the image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means comprise:

reading means (main control section 22) for reading the second parameters stored in the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device;

modification means (rewriting function 5) for modifying the second parameters read by the reading means; and

writing means (main control section 22) for writing values equal to the modifications made by the modification means to the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device.

Regarding claim 5, Sato discloses the image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means comprise: reading means for reading the second parameters stored in the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device;

modification means (rewriting function 5) for modifying the second parameters read by the reading means; and

writing means (main control section 22) for writing values equal to the modifications made by the modification means to the first nonvolatile memory of the digital printing device and the second nonvolatile memory of the digital scanning device when the digital scanning device is connected to the digital printing device (copying all or part of the information, see para. 0014).

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Claim 6, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 1.

Claim 7, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 2.

Claim 8, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 3.

Claim 9, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 4.

Claim 10, a method claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 5.

Claim 11, a device claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 1.

Claim 12, a device claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 2.

Claim 13, a device claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 3.

Claim 14, a device claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 4.

Claim 15, a device claim, is rejected for the same reason as claim 5.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas J. Lett whose telephone number is (571) 272-7464. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you

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would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

T. Lett  
AU 2625



KING Y. POON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER